

WT 11-65



Inspiring Innovation. Creating Commerce.

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August 18, 2011

Received & Inspected

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20554

AUG 24 2011

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

At the Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County, we are committed to accelerating economic growth in our county. The AT&T/T-Mobile merger will support this endeavor, primarily by fostering economic development, spurring job creation, and providing infrastructure improvement.

St. Clair County is a unique combination of rural, automotive manufacturing and transportation-shipping economies. The LTE network deployed by AT&T post-merger will likely invigorate existing business, and create new opportunities in each of these sectors.

The rural areas of St. Clair County are underserved by existing communication infrastructure. With the new, rapid-speed network, which AT&T anticipates will cover a full 98 percent of Michiganders, businesses can utilize broader, more reliable coverage and faster speeds to do business from their laptops, tablets, and smart phones.

The flexibility of near-seamless wireless access promises added flexibility and efficiency. It also constitutes a competitive business platform, with which companies of all sizes can participate in the state, national and even global economy. As St. Clair's businesses innovate and grow, job creation will follow.

While the value of AT&T's post-merger network is significant, the infrastructure investment envisioned by AT&T is also likely to boost our economy. The company estimates that it will spend an additional \$8 billion to establish and deploy its LTE network.

As you and your colleagues consider the merits of this transaction, I hope you will take into consideration the value it holds for counties like St. Clair.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dan Casey".

Dan Casey
CEO, Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County

cc: Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

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